

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A battery comprising:

a battery module provided with a metal tab; and

a package having a base layer, an aluminum layer, an innermost heat-sealable layer, and a bonding layer between the base layer and the aluminum layer, and holding the battery module therein such that the metal tab extends outside from the package;

wherein (1) the package has a heat-sealed peripheral part, and a part of the tab corresponding to the heat-sealed peripheral part is provided with a corrosion-resistant layer formed by a chemical conversion treatment, ~~and~~ (2) the part of the tab corresponding to the corrosion-resistant layer has been degreased, and (3) a first corrosion-resistant layer is formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on the side of the innermost heat sealable layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

2. to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The battery according to 5_1, wherein

~~the package further comprises a second corrosion-resistant layer sandwiched between the bonding layer and the barrier layer~~ is formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on the side of the base layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

7. (Original) The battery according to claim 1, wherein an adhesive film is wound around the tabs.

8. to 11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A tab manufacturing method comprising the steps of:

preparing a metal sheet for forming a tab body;
slitting the metal sheet into the tab body;
degreasing an entire surface of the tab body;
applying a solution prepared by mixing a phosphate, chromic acid, a fluoride and a triazine thiol compound to the degreased surface of the tab body; and

drying the solution applied to the tab body to coat the tab body with a film, and heating the film at a temperature not lower than 180°C to form a corrosion-resistant layer on the tab body.

13. (Currently Amended) A battery comprising:

a battery module provided with a metal tab; and

a package having an innermost heat-sealable layer and holding the battery module therein such that the metal tab extends outside from the package;

wherein the package has a heat-sealed peripheral part, and a part of the tab corresponding to the heat-sealed peripheral part is provided with a corrosion-resistant layer formed by a chemical conversion treatment, and

wherein the corrosion-resistant layer of the tab is formed by using a processing solution prepared by mixing a phenolic resin, a chromium fluoride (3) compound and phosphoric acid, so that the corrosion-resistant layer includes a composition consisting of the phenolic resin, the chromium fluoride (3) and the phosphoric acid.

14. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 13, wherein (1) the package further comprises a base layer, an aluminum layer, and a bonding layer between the base layer and the aluminum layer, and (2) a first corrosion-resistant layer is formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on the side of the innermost heat sealable layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

15. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 14, wherein

~~the package further comprises a second corrosion-resistant layer sandwiched between the bonding layer and the barrier layer~~ is formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on the side of the base layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

16. (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 13, wherein an adhesive film is wound around the tabs.

17. (Currently Amended) A battery comprising:
a battery module provided with a metal tab; and

a package having an innermost heat-sealable layer and holding the battery module therein such that the metal tab extends outside from the package;

wherein the package has a heat-sealed peripheral part and a part of the tab corresponding to the heat-sealed peripheral part is provided with a corrosion-resistant layer formed by a chemical conversion treatment,

wherein the part of the tab corresponding to the corrosion-resistant layer has been degreased, and

wherein the corrosion-resistant layer of the tab is formed by using a processing solution prepared by mixing a phenolic resin, a chromium fluoride (3) compound and phosphoric acid, so that the corrosion-resistant layer includes a composition consisting of the phenolic resin, the chromium fluoride (3) compound and the phosphoric acid.

18. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 17, wherein

the package further comprises a base layer, an aluminum layer, and a bonding layer between the base layer and the aluminum layer, and a first corrosion-resistant layer is

formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on the side of the innermost heat sealable layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

19. (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 18, wherein

~~the package further comprises a second corrosion-resistant layer sandwiched between the bonding layer and the barrier layer~~ is formed on a surface of the aluminum layer on a side of the base layer by a chemical conversion treatment.

20. (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 17, wherein an adhesive film is wound around the tabs.

21. (Currently Amended) A metal tab for a battery including a sealed package having a sealed peripheral part and a battery module held in the package, attached to the battery module and extending outside through the sealed peripheral part of the package, said metal tab comprising:

a tab body; and

a corrosion-resistant layer formed on a part of the tab body corresponding to the sealed peripheral part of the package by a chemical conversion treatment,

wherein the corrosion-resistant layer is formed by using a processing solution prepared by mixing a phenolic resin, a chromium fluoride (3) compound and phosphoric acid, so that the corrosion-resistant layer includes a composition consisting of the phenolic resin, the chromium fluoride (3) compound and the phosphoric acid.

22. (Currently Amended) A metal tab for a battery including a sealed package having a sealed peripheral part and a battery module held in the package, attached to the battery module and extending outside through the sealed peripheral part of the package, said metal tab comprising:

a tab body; and

a corrosion-resistant layer formed on a part of the tab body corresponding to the sealed peripheral part of the package by a chemical conversion treatment,

wherein the part of the tab body corresponding to the corrosion-resistant layer has been degreased and

Serial No. 10/009,488

wherein the corrosion-resistant layer is formed by using a processing solution prepared by mixing a phenolic resin, a chromium fluoride (3) compound and phosphoric acid, so that the corrosion-resistant layer includes a composition consisting of the phenolic resin, the chromium fluoride (3) compound and the phosphoric acid.